

PLAN-IT!

Quarterly Newsletter of the Planning Division

Highlights of the NDOT Roadway Systems Section

2nd Quarter, 2010

The NDOT Planning Division's Roadway System Section is responsible for the functional classification, route designations and inventory, digital imagery, Highway Performance Monitoring System (HPMS), and mile

posting of Nevada's transportation network. These responsibilities support the planning of efficient transportation resource allocation and ensuring a better transportation system for the traveling public.



*Photo: Back row (L to R) Gaelen Lamb, Patty Shinault, Catherine Cuccaro, Dave Manning, George Barkdull
Front row (L to R) Jodi Swirczek, Steve Jackson, Sydnie Platt-Schlachta*

HPMS

Accurate, representative transportation data is critical to informed decision making to transportation agencies at all levels. HPMS is a national database of highway inventory, condition, performance, and operating characteristic data for all public roadways. It is used at the national level for apportionment, performance measures, highway statistics, and conditions

reporting. Roadway Systems is required to report Nevada's data annually to the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA).

The HPMS program is undergoing substantial changes based upon a reassessment of needs by the FHWA. The goal of the HPMS Reassessment is to ensure it meets the needs of users. The main requirement of this effort is moving the system to a geospatial format (GIS). Currently, Roadway Systems staff is working to identify and develop partnerships with Divisional and District staff within NDOT, as well as, Counties, Cities and RTCs in order to obtain and maintain accurate and current data in the system. If you have any questions, or can offer assistance to the effort please call either Steve Jackson, Federal Program Manager at 775-888-7036 or Jodi Swirczek, HPMS Coordinator at 775-888-7448.

Continued on next page

Inside This Issue

**Roadway
Systems
Section
Highlights**
Pages 1-2

**Safe Routes
to School**
Page 3

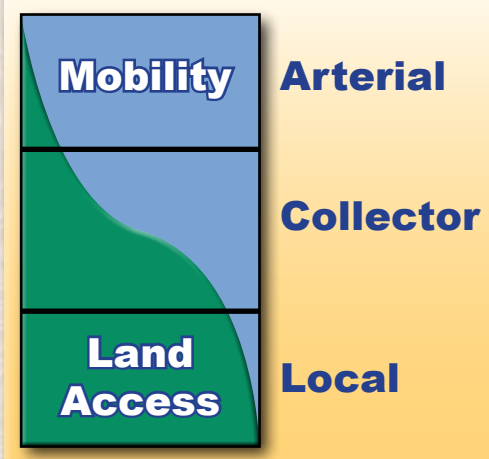
Meet the Planner
Page 4

**Newsletter Contest
Winners**
Page 4

Functional Classification

Functional classification groups roadways into classes, or systems, according to the service they provide, and defines the trade-off between mobility and land access. State transportation agencies have primary responsibility for cooperatively developing statewide functional classification with responsible officials. The results are submitted to FHWA for approval as the official record defining Federal-aid eligibility. The program also cooperatively determines the official urbanized boundaries and is reported to the FHWA as part of the HPMS submittal. Approved maps and documentation of the NDOT process and procedures for developing functional classification are available on the NDOT internet site under “Reports and Publications”, “Functional Classification Maps”. For further information, please contact Gaalen Lamb, Federal Inventory Analyst at 775-888-7387

Proportion of Service



Route Designations and Inventory Program

Roadway Systems is responsible for the inventory and designation of Interstate, US and State routes. The State Maintained System is documented in the “State Maintained Highways Descriptions, Index, and Maps document” (DI). This document is on the NDOT web site under Reports and Publications. The consistent designation of routes is critical for guiding the traveling public, and managing the reference of data that NDOT collects. Methodologies for designation of the system are on the Roadway Systems SharePoint site in a document called “Route Types Defined and System Hierarchy.”

Roadway Systems works cooperatively with the Location\GIS section to maintain road networks in a GIS Linear Reference System. This reference includes an additional system for relating data to the road network called “Route Master”. A Route Master ID (RMID) is a unique identifier for reference to the road network. Incorporating RMID in your data improves the ability to reference your data to the road network. Currently, the information on these intranet sites is only available to NDOT employees. The State Systems section of Roadway Systems also makes quarterly notifications to departmental staff via e-mail, defining all system and route changes including milepost and functional classification changes. For questions about route designation and/or Route Master ID’s, please contact Sydnie Platt-Schlachta at 775-888-7179.

“Roadview Explorer” Digital Imagery Program

Roadway Systems has provided images of the State Maintained Highway System to departmental users for 30 years. The latest effort includes dual high-resolution images for 2008. It also provides users with geo-positional satellite (GPS) data and capability via “Roadview Explorer 7” software to collect and record GPS coordinates of visible attributes without the travel, equipment and exposure to traffic. The system is capable of generating measurements such as sign height and shoulder width. Additional data includes: 360 degree views of high crash intersections, laser bridge height measurements, and curve and grade. Images are currently being captured for all “off-system” roadways eligible for Federal Aid as determined by functional classification. Future efforts include the electronic capture of sign retro reflectivity and inventory. For information regarding the program, please contact Steve Jackson at (775) 888-7036.

Milepost Index Program

Mileposts are utilized by many including: emergency responders, law enforcement personnel and the traveling public, along with NDOT for the Maintenance Management System, Safety Division, Materials Division, Districts via encroachment permits, and the Right of Way (ROW) Division relative to permits and

Continued on next page

ROW mapping, the Design Division locates projects to mileposts, and Financial Management, Bridge, Hydraulics, and Transportation and Multimodal Planning Divisions utilize them as well. Roadway Systems maintains the cross reference of engineering stationing to the milepost system.

The Location Division has collected all milepost locations statewide and Roadway Systems is maintaining this data. Mileposts must follow the rules of the Route Designation and Hierarchy document to be consistent. Roadway Systems has instituted many changes including the formation of a Milepost Committee with membership from most of the affected Divisions and Districts. Our goal is to bring awareness to the system and have the “field” match administrative designations and mileage values. Please direct your milepost questions to Sydnie Platt-Schlachta at 775-888-7179 or Patty Shinault at 775-888-7447.

The Nevada Safe Routes to School (SRTS)

program encourages children in grades K through 8th to walk and bicycle to school. This is a local assistance program that provides approximately \$1 million a year to local entities, schools and advocacy groups for increasing the number of students walking and biking to school. Funding can be used for:

- Improvements to bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure
- Encouragement programs for walking and bicycling to school
- Educating students and parents on the health, environmental and community benefits of biking and walking

Nevada Safe Routes to School



The NDOT has created a calendar for the 2010-2011 school year featuring winning artwork created by students showing bicycling and walking safety tips. Over 200 unique pieces of art were

submitted by students in grades K-8 for the calendar artwork contest.

NEVADA SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL

2010 - 2011 Calendar

Featuring the winning selections of student art showing bicycle and walking safety



Artist: Lissett Castro, 4th grade, Las Vegas

The purpose of the calendar is twofold. First, 100 calendars will be made into SRTS Calendar Classroom Kits. These calendar kits will be distributed to 100 classrooms in Nevada schools that are actively implementing SRTS in the beginning of the 2010-2011 school year. The kits include one calendar, incentives (pencils, stickers, blinky lights, etc), parent surveys, walkability and bikability checklists, and bicycling and walking to school safety tips. The calendar has space to tally the number of students that walk, bicycle, or scooter/other to school along with a monthly total to track the number of students who get to school by human power. Second, the calendar will be distributed

to individual students and families to promote SRTS and encourage students to walk and bicycle to school. Students can set their own goals and track their progress on the calendar.

Nevada Moves Day 2010 “By the Numbers”

7 School Districts
34 Participating Schools
7,906 Students Participating

Nevada Moves Day which took place on April 28, 2010 was a huge success for a first time event. The 2011 event is scheduled for April 27, 2011.

Rebecca Kapuler, Nevada’s SRTS coordinator can be contacted at rkapular@dot.state.nv.us or 775.888.7357 for more information or with questions about the Nevada SRTS program.

Meet the Planner*Jason Van Havel*

**Jason Van Havel, Assistant Chief,
Transportation & Multimodal Planning**

Jason grew up on a pig farm in Morenci, Michigan. He earned his Bachelor of Science for Mechanical Engineering and MBA from UNR. He credits a lot of who he is today on his upbringing on the pig farm. His favorite quote is: "Lead, follow or get out of the way" by Thomas Paine. Something that most people would not know about Jason is that he thinks in order to be a 'true Westerner' one has to do a couple of things. One is to kill a rattlesnake with your bare hands and the other is to jump on the back of a wild mustang. Jason has killed the rattlesnake and is looking forward to jumping onto the mustang.

Name the Newsletter Contest

We were pleasantly surprised to receive 72 names submitted by 29 people. A hearty

thank you goes out to everyone who took the time to formulate and submit a name. The winning name "Plan It!" was submitted by four people (Brittany Barto, Jeff Henkelman, Holly Seymour and Thresa Zylstra.)



This created the need to conduct a drawing which was won by Brittany Barto from the Winnemucca Crew #920. Congratulations Brittany and enjoy your \$25 gift card to Wal Mart ! The other submitters received a \$5 gift card to Paul Schat's Bakery.

Key Dates

Product Evaluation Committee Meeting, September 7

All Planning Meeting, September 22

State Transportation Board Meeting, September 23

2011 NDOT Size and Weight Enforcement Plan submitted to FHWA prior to October 1

Statewide Transportation Technical Advisory Committee Meeting, October 4

Annual Nevada Bike/Ped Conference October 8, 2010 Las Vegas (Spring 2011 date Northwestern Nevada TBD)

Election Day, November 2

Certification of 2010 NDOT Size and Weight Plan submitted prior to December 31st.



2nd Quarter, 2010

www.nevadadot.com

Is produced by the Planning Division of the **Nevada Department of Transportation**
Susan Martinovich, P.E., *Director*

1263 South Stewart Street, Carson City, Nevada 89712 (775) 888-7000

Tim Mueller, *Writer* • Julie Duewel, *Photographer* • Multi-media, *Graphic Design*